

Application No.: 10/786,808
Amendment Dated: August 27, 2004
Preliminary Amendment

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Original) In a reading apparatus for scanning and decoding image data encoded in one of a plurality of types of optically encoded indicia, said apparatus being of the type including a read-write random access memory space (RAMS) and at least one erasable read only memory space (EROMS), in combination:

scanning circuit including a solid-state image sensor for scanning and storing in said RAMS image data for said optically encoded indicia;

decoding circuit for applying a plurality of decoding programs to image data stored in said RAMS to produce decoded data there from;

a parameter table, stored in at least one of said memory spaces, for storing a plurality of parameters which specify the permitted operating modes of said reading apparatus, said parameters including:

(i) a plurality of code parameters for controlling the decoding programs that may be used by said decoding circuit;

(ii) a plurality of scanning-decoding parameters for controlling the scanning and decoding activities of said scanning circuit and said decoding circuit; and

processing circuit including a menuing program for changing the parameters of said parameter table, and including a reprogramming program responsive to a program command generated by a data source external to said reading apparatus for reprogramming said apparatus;

wherein said menuing program allows a user to modify said parameter table by presenting predetermined menu symbols to said apparatus, and wherein said reprogramming program allows said external data source to control the reprogramming of said apparatus.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 in which said menuing program includes a plurality of menu routines for causing said processing circuit to perform tasks corresponding to menu symbols presented to said apparatus by a user.

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3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2 in which said menu routines include at least one menu routine that causes said apparatus to output information relating to said parameter table.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2 in which said menu symbols encode menu words of one or two types, a first type including a first op code that calls for changes to said parameter table and a second type including a second op code that calls for the performance of one of said menu routines.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further including an I/O device through which said apparatus may communicate with said external data source, wherein said external data source comprises a local host processor.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further including an I/O device through which said apparatus may communicate with said external data source, wherein said external data source comprises a remote host processor that is coupled to said I/O device through a data transmission link.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said reprogramming includes a loading program for loading an application program from said external data source into said RAMS.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7 in which said reprogramming program includes instructions for transferring an application program from said RAMS to said EROM.

Claims 9-23 (Cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer).